

Atty. Docket No. JP920000133US1
(590.074)

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Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A word prediction method, said method comprising the steps of:

specifying a sentence structure consisting of multiple words, including a target word to be predicted;

employing said sentence structure to select a word and/or a word sequence that has a modification relationship with said target word to be predicted; and

predicting said target word based on said word and/or said word sequence that is selected; and

returning to a user said predicted target word.

2. (Original) The word prediction method according to claim 1, wherein said word and/or said word sequence constitute a partial analysis tree structure in said sentence structure.

3. (Original) The word prediction method according to claim 1, wherein, when multiple words and/or word sequences are selected, word prediction is performed based on said words and/or word sequences that are selected.

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4. **(Currently Amended)** A word prediction method, said method comprising the steps of:

specifying a modification of a word to be predicted by a different word and/or word sequence; and

~~prediction~~ predicting said word using said different word and/or word sequence that is specified; and

returning to a user said predicted target word.

5. **(Original)** The word prediction method according to claim 4, wherein said modification includes a modification direction, and said word to be predicted modifies a prior word.

6. **(Original)** The word prediction method according to claim 4, wherein, when multiple modifications are established between said word to be predicted and said different word and/or word sequence, a word is predicted for each of said modifications.

7. **(Withdrawn)**

8. **(Currently Amended)** A word prediction apparatus comprising:

a storer which stores a dictionary wherein text data that have been learned is written; and

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a predictor which employs a structure of a sentence consisting of multiple words, including a word to be predicted, to select a word and/or a word sequence that has a modification relationship with said word to be predicted, and which predicts said word based on said word and/or said word sequence that is selected; and

an arrangement which returns said predicted word to a user.

9. (Currently Amended) A word prediction apparatus comprising:

a storer which stores a dictionary wherein text data that have been learned is written; and

a predictor which selects a word and/or a word sequence that has a modification relationship with a word to be predicted, and which predicts said word based on said word and/or said word sequence that is selected; and

an arrangement which returns said predicted word to a user.

10. (Original) The word prediction apparatus according to claim 9, wherein, for a predetermined word or word sequence based on said text data, a frequency where at another predetermined word appears is stored in said dictionary.

11. (Original) The word prediction apparatus according to claim 10, wherein said predictor calculates a probability value for a word sequence including a word that is predicted based on said frequency.

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12. (Original) The word prediction apparatus according to claim 11, wherein said predictor selects, as a prediction result, a word sequence having the maximum probability value.

13. (Withdrawn)

14. (Currently Amended) A computer system comprising:

a specifier which specifies a modification relationship between a word to be predicted and another word and/or word sequence, and which predicts said word by employing said word and/or word sequence modifying said word; and

~~a display which displays said word that is predicted, and said~~
~~modification relationship;~~

an arrangement which returns said predicted word to a user, and said
modification relationship.

15. (Currently Amended) A storage medium, on which a computer readable program is stored, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the
computer, that permits a the computer to perform:

a first process for specifying a sentence structure consisting of multiple words, including a target word to be predicted;

a second process for employing said sentence structure to select a word and/or a word sequence that has a modification relationship with said target word to be predicted; and

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a third process for predicting said target word based on said word and/or said word sequence that is selected; and

returning to a user said predicted target word.

16. (Currently Amended) A storage medium, on which a computer readable program is stored, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the computer, that permits a the computer to perform:

a first process for specifying a modification relationship between a word to be predicted and a different word and/or word sequence; and

a second process for predicting said word using said different word and/or word sequence that is specified; and

returning to a user said predicted word.

17. (Currently Amended) A program transmission apparatus comprising:

a storer which stores a program, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by a computer, permitting a the computer to perform

a first process for specifying a sentence structure of a multiple word sentence, including a target word to be predicted,

a second process for employing said sentence structure to select a word and/or a word sequence that has a modification relationship with said target word to be predicted, and

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a third process for predicting said target word based on said word
and/or said word sequence that is selected; and

a transmitter which reads said program from said storer and transmits
said program; and

an arrangement which returns said predicted target word to a user.

18. (Currently Amended) A program transmission apparatus comprising:

a storer which stores a program tangibly embodying a program of
instructions executable by a computer, permitting a the computer to perform

a first process for specifying a modification relationship between
a word to be predicted and a different word and/or word sequence, and

a second process for predicting said word using said different
word and/or word sequence that is specified; and

a transmitter which reads said program from said storer and transmits
said program; and

an arrangement which returns said predicted word to a user.

19. (Currently Amended) A program storage device readable by machine
computer, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine the
computer to perform method steps for word prediction, said method comprising the steps
of:

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specifying a sentence structure consisting of multiple words, including a target word to be predicted;

employing said sentence structure to select a word and/or a word sequence that has a modification relationship with said target word to be predicted; ~~and~~

predicting said target word based on said word and/or said word sequence that is selected; and

returning to a user said predicted target word.

20. (Currently Amended) A program storage device readable by machine computer, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by ~~the machine~~ the computer to perform method steps for word prediction, said method comprising the steps of:

specifying a modification of a word to be predicted by a different word and/or word sequence; ~~and~~

~~prediction~~ predicting said word using said different word and/or word sequence that is specified; and

returning to a user said predicted word.

21. (Withdrawn)

22. (New) The word prediction method according to claim 1, wherein said returning to a user comprises displaying said predicted target word.

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23. (New) The word prediction apparatus according to claim 8, wherein said arrangement which returns said predicted word to a user comprises an external storage medium for storing said predicted word.